

23 April 1958

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION

SUBJECT: CRAG Meeting of 18 April 1958

1. Proposed DCID on Biographic Intelligence (attached)

25X1A9a Paul Borel began by saying that he hoped the language in paragraph 2c would take care of ORR's interests, namely, the inclusion of the words "industrial and technical personalities." I took the position, which was supported by [REDACTED] that if this were changed to read "economic personalities in the Sino-Soviet Bloc," our interests would be satisfied; and that the words "politico-economic" in paragraph 2a seemed unnecessary since those economic personalities of political importance would be covered by State in any event as a part of the political personalities file, recognizing that some duplication between the political and economic files is inevitable.

In response to a question regarding the use of a biographic file covering economic personalities in the Bloc, I indicated this seemed to me to be a subject of increasing importance: for studies of politico-economic developments within the Bloc in which we are taking a greater interest; for guidance to the exchange program and for East-West conferences; for leads in connection with guided missile production and atomic energy activities; and for support of DD/P. I went on to say that ORR believes that this file should be maintained in CIA for the following reasons:

a. ORR/CIA has primary responsibility within the intelligence community for the production of economic intelligence on the Bloc.

b. Except for economic personalities of political importance, State admittedly has not shown an interest in maintaining such a file and has not assigned this function the effort it requires in terms of selecting the kind of information most needed and designating the categories of personalities of the greatest importance; nor have they given adequate attention to collection requirements (other than comprehensive requirements) to acquire the information needed. If this task were assigned to OCR, these things could be accomplished through the joint efforts of ORR and OCR, and this joint effort could be accomplished more easily under these arrangements than through a reliance on State, particularly after the move to the new CIA building. At this point, one of Paul Borel's people

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██████████ objected on the grounds that if this work were taken over by OCR, this would represent an additional workload and that less attention could then be given by OCR to biographic intelligence on such priority topics as scientific and technical personalities; moreover, that under the present arrangement whereby OCR covers industrial and technical personalities and State the politico-economic personalities, the coverage is adequate. I argued against both of these points, saying, first, that I did not conceive of a major additional workload on OCR since they would have available at the outset the material in State's file and any additional information immediately available in ORR; and that ORR would be able to narrow the problem by selecting those categories of personalities of intelligence significance. Second, in response to his statement that the biographic files on economic personalities are adequate under existing arrangements, I indicated that both ORR and OBI in looking into this matter, specifically in regard to Czechoslovakia, had found that these files were not adequate; that the categories "politico-economic" and "industrial and technical" do not cover the spectrum of personalities in the economic field and omit, for example, the academic world, foreign trade, transportation, and many others; and that State with its present responsibility in this field has had very little interest in it, and the kind of specific guidance to collectors needed to build up a meaningful file has been inadequate.

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I agreed with ██████████ that every effort should be made to clarify this delineation of responsibility and it should not be left in its present hyphenated, fuzzy state. ██████████ agrees that the matter should be taken up again in a separate meeting of Paul Borel, ██████████ and Otto Guthe. I personally believe that something can be worked out on this and that Paul Borel is not unsympathetic with our position.

2. IEM Proposal for Automatic Abstracting (attached)

FDD, as a component of the Agency with possible interest in this item, was represented at the meeting. The matter was discussed at some length, and it was agreed that there was no great enthusiasm at this stage to invest any significant amount of CIA money in the project. Paul Borel suggested that OCR might make a nominal contribution to indicate Agency interest in advancing the state of the art.

3. Selective Indexing of Intelligence Publications by OCR (attached)

Following a discussion of this subject, it was concluded that:

a. OCR will diminish the frequency of the Intelligence Publications Index (IPI) but will continue to prepare an Intellofax

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record on individual items. The IPI will be prepared quarterly, and there will be no semi-annual recapitulation.

b. A small working group will be established to review those categories which OCR has decided to "nodex" (i.e., not to index) and to suggest categories of material which the various Offices have no interest in receiving and/or having indexed. To assist this group and to avoid elaborate surveys in the various Offices involved, Paul Borel agreed to find out whether OCR could make a survey of its own to determine what categories of material presently indexed are not being used. I have asked [REDACTED] to nominate a person for this working group.

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[REDACTED]
Acting Assistant Director
Research and Reports

Attachments:

As listed in
1, 2, and 3

Distribution:

Orig.--AD/RR

1--AD/CR

1--AD/BI

1--Ch/E/RR

1--Ch/G/RR

2--OAD/RR 1-8c/1

OAD/RR/[REDACTED]:mhs/8666 (23 April 1958)

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